

FRENCH HILL
2ND DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS,
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON MONETARY
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AND ILLICIT FINANCE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2018

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE
1229 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-2506
FAX: (202) 225-5903

CONWAY DISTRICT OFFICE
1105 DEER STREET, SUITE 12
CONWAY, AR 72032
PHONE: (501) 358-3481
FAX: (501) 358-3494

LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT OFFICE
1501 NORTH UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 630
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72207
PHONE: (501) 324-5941
FAX: (501) 324-6029

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
Subcommittee on Interior and Environment
House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior and Environment
House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

As you begin work on your Subcommittee's Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations bill, I join those requesting that you give consideration to funding the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) competitive grant program to provide technical assistance for our nation's small public water and wastewater systems.

Arkansas has more than 700 community water and wastewater systems and our smaller systems and rural communities rely on the technical assistance provided by the state's non-profit Arkansas Rural Water Association. The Association helps to improve and ensure the safety of our drinking water supplies and compliance with federal regulations. The Association staff also provides much needed expertise, guidance, and assistance to ensure quality wastewater systems and safe drinking water for our rural communities. This competitive grant program provides many similar non-profit organizations across the country with essential funds to assist their small and rural communities.

While we continue our work to reduce the overly burdensome regulations that face our small and rural communities, we must ensure that essential funding is made available to assist these communities in their efforts to comply with EPA regulations.

I appreciate your consideration of my request for full and fair consideration during the appropriations process of this important competitive grant program for our nation's public water and wastewater systems. I look forward to working with you to ensure quality and safe water sources for all Americans, and I thank you for your leadership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

French Hill
Member of Congress